

United States Senate  
OFFICE OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

July 8, 2014

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500-0001

Dear Mr. President:

The recent expansion of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant's (ISIL) offensive against the people and territory of Iraq has awakened the wider world to the profound threat posed by this terrorist organization to the interests of the United States and our allies.

As you know, ISIL has occupied key terrain within Syria and Iraq from which it trains, launches operations, recruits and consolidates its gains. In short, as both an insurgent army and a terrorist organization (one previously affiliated with Al Qaeda), spanning from Raqqa to the approaches of Baghdad, ISIL represents a daunting challenge to the stability of the wider region, and threatens our allies and our own national security. Dealing with this threat has become unavoidable.

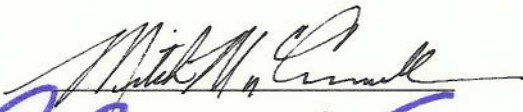
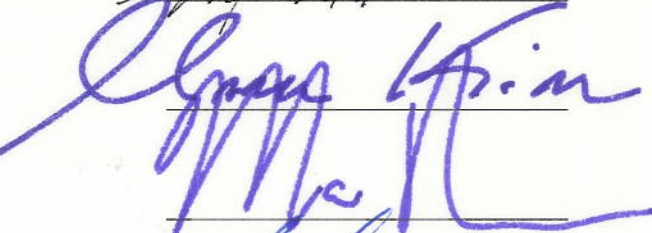
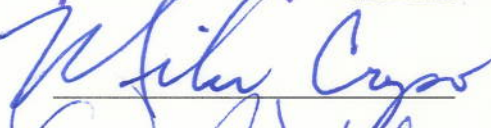

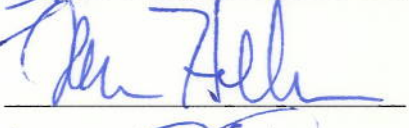

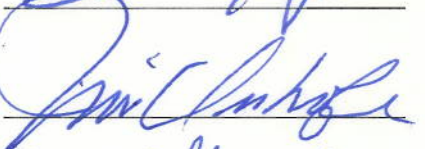
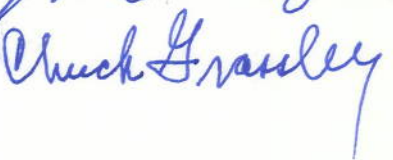
In recent days you have recognized this reality and taken some initial steps. First, we support your decision to deploy military advisors to Iraq to assess how we can best help the government of Iraq defend its population and combat further advances by ISIL, and personnel to reinforce the security of our Embassy in Baghdad. Second, the fiscal year 2015 budget amendment for Overseas Contingency Operations contains your request for \$5 billion for a new Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund which represents a recognition that the threat posed by the civil war in Syria destabilizes the entire region, and seeks to increase our support for the Syrian opposition and assist Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey in responding to this crisis. We hope to be able to support this effort as well once the full details of this proposal are shared with the Senate.

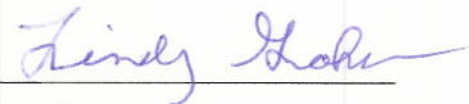
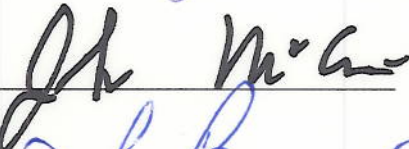

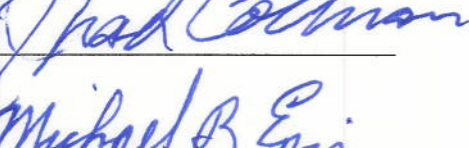
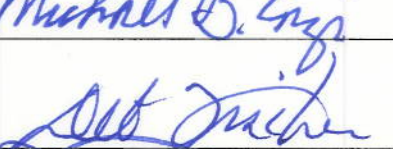
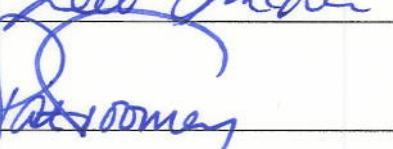
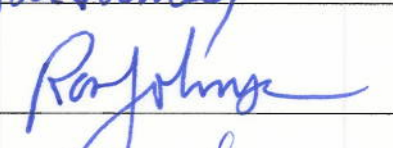
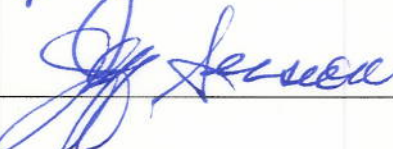

Considering the threat posed by ISIL to Jordan, we believe that this is not enough. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has proven to be a valued and loyal ally through decades of turmoil in the Middle East, to include through Operation Iraqi Freedom, the recent Arab uprisings in Egypt, Libya and Syria, is a source of moderation within the Arab world, and plays a critical role in the Arab-Israeli peace process. We view King Abdallah II as an invaluable ally, and view the defense of Jordan as critical to the national security interests of the U.S. – and Israel.

Page 2  
July 8, 2014

On June 12, 2014 you informed the Congress of the forces currently committed to the defense of Jordan consistent with the War Powers Resolution. Heretofore your administration has not developed a coherent strategy for defending the United States or our allies from either ISIL or the Al Nusrah front. We are asking you to take urgent action to develop such a plan. Second, we ask you to take additional immediate action by deploying an assessment team to Jordan, as you have done in Iraq, to determine the immediate needs and additional steps required to defend Jordan against ISIL, and to protect our Embassy in Amman. Finally, we ask that you assess the impact of additional refugee flows into Jordan from Syria and Iraq, and propose additional programs the U.S. can support to maintain and promote economic and political stability. Following the completion of the strategy and assessments we stand ready to consider and work with you to support any recommendations or additional actions you propose to reinforce the defense and stability of Jordan.

Sincerely,



John Bozeman

John Bozeman  
John Bozeman  
John Bozeman

Reginald  
John Bozeman  
Reginald

Sally Chaublin  
Loretta Wicker  
J. S.

Bob Lingo

Bob Lingo  
Bob Lingo  
Bob Lingo

Bob Lingo  
Bob Lingo  
Kelly Ayotte  
Bob Portman

Tom Harkin  
Tom Harkin